

# August

Magic Lantern Society  
US and Canada

NEWS 2016



Be Sure to LOOK for those Buttons and roll-over effects

## In This Issue

**In Memory of  
Beryl Vosburgh .....4**

**Large Collection of Cincinnati  
History in Lantern Slides...6**

**Lilley Lanterns .....7**

**Harbach Lantern .....9**

**Check Out this Spirited  
Listing on Ebay .....11**

**Coming Events .....12**

## Check out These Glass Lantern Slides

Thousands of photographs of the Blackfoot and their homelands in northwestern Montana. See page 8 for more information.



## Buhoup's Great Floating Hindoo Pagoda

In the 1850's J W Buhoup traveled with an exhibition of "Chemical Dioramas and Chinese Pyric Fires," advertised as "the best thing ever introduced into the United States." Often finding it difficult to procure a hall large enough to accommodate his audience, Buhoup had the moveable Pagoda constructed in Pittsburgh. Designed to travel on a showboat, the Hindoo Pagoda was said to seat 2400 people. The Floating Hindoo Pagoda traveled the Ohio River until it was destroyed by fire in Trinity, Louisiana.

I believe the show was partly a magic lantern show, based on descriptions in the press that mention dissolving views and chromatrope.

## 2016 Convention

17th International Convention  
**October 6-9, 2016**

Best Western Landmark Hotel, Metairie, LA  
New Orleans, Louisiana, USA

**Early Registration on or before  
August 31, 2016 saves you money**



The capacity of the boat, mentioned in one article as 2400, is listed at 800 and 200 people in other articles.

Email

**Steve Barnes** [thesteve4@yahoo.com](mailto:thesteve4@yahoo.com)

or

**Ron Easterday** [rlasterday@comcast.net](mailto:rlasterday@comcast.net)

**for registration form**

My favorite quote about the show is from the Martinsville Ohio Enterprise, below - I'm sure that will apply to our conference as well: It is far better to improve the mind, gratify the eye, and spend one's time and money is this way, than in appetital indulgence, and lounging about taverns, or reading novels!

Suzanne Wray

*continued next page*

## 2016 Convention Highlights Continued

### Picture the Songs: Dixie Days

(Song Slides of the Sunny South)

Song slides with narrative by Margaret Burgh, live vocalist by Sean Sharp, and local pianist Louis Mayer.



Sean's previous Magic Lantern Society performance was at the 2010 Bloomington convention. He has performed with illustrated songs at the West Coast Ragtime Festival, the Shasta Silent Film Festival and the Sutter Creek Ragtime Festival. He is an original member of 42nd St. Moon Productions of San Francisco; some of his favorite roles with that company have been in "The Good Companions," "Darling of the Day" and "Three Sisters." Sean has been seen impersonating the songwriter/performer Henry Russell at the Dickens Christmas Faire and singing with the Great Nickelodeon Show at the Giornate del Cinema Muto, the Telluride Film Festival, the Niles Silent Film Festival and San Francisco's Castro Theatre, among other venues. His other credits include singing in the San Francisco Grace Cathedral Men's Choir and performing with the Lamplighters and down the California coast with the Great American Melodrama.



#### CHORUS:

In dear old Dixie days,  
Where my heart has been always,  
Where the Mississippi's flowing,  
Where the cotton blossom's growing  
Under Southern breezes blowing  
Where my heart is, there I'm going,  
Dear old Dixie days,  
With their good old-fashioned ways,  
I will "weep no more, my lady,"  
When I'm back again to Dixie days.



## In Memory of Beryl Vosburgh



Beryl Vosburgh was an actress and mother of Tilly Vosburgh.  
also known as Beryl Roques  
profession: Actor  
Marriage with Dick Vosburgh between 1953 and 18 April 2007  
(54 years)

### From David Evans

Larry,

I don't know if you ever met Beryl, but she was a character in the magic lantern world. She ran a small magic lantern store in London some 40 years or so ago where you could find rare slides etc. She was one of the very rare dealers in ML and photographica in those days. She was also a charming little lady

## British photographic history

Information and discussion on all aspects of British photographic history

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### Obituary: Beryl Vosburgh née Roques (1932- 2016) - UPDATED 2

Posted by [Michael Pritchard](#) on July 11, 2016 at 7:00

[View Blog](#)

Beryl Diana Vosburgh, who for many years ran Jubilee Photographica, a shop selling old photographs and photographic equipment, in Pierrepont Row, Camden Passage, London, died on 6 July 2016.

Beryl was a familiar face at the early auctions of photography and the name 'Jubilee' would be heard repeatedly in the days when a buyer's name was called out in the auction room and printed in the realised price sheets. She attended the first photography fairs and was a long-serving committee member of the Historical Group of the Royal Photographic Society which she joined in 1973. She was a founding member of both the Group and the Magic Lantern Society. Her shop was one of the first in Britain specifically devoted to historical photography and only closed in 2002.

### For more about Beryl

[http://britishphotohistory.ning.com/profiles/blogs/obituary-beryl-vosburgh-nee-roques-1932-2016?xg\\_source=activity](http://britishphotohistory.ning.com/profiles/blogs/obituary-beryl-vosburgh-nee-roques-1932-2016?xg_source=activity)

who would always welcome you with a warm smile. She had, I think, been an actress and was married to a very popular script writer for BBC and other broadcasters, Dick Vosburgh. Their daughter Tilly is now an actress.

Regards

David



Pershing Square in 1896, when it was known as Central Park.

In theaters and lecture halls across the country – even in tents on the prairie – the magic lantern entertained Americans in a way that prefigured the motion picture of the 20th century. It often served educational or promotional ends, too. In the 1870s, at least one magic lantern lecturer, Stephen James Sedgwick, transported Eastern and Midwestern audiences along the route of the new transcontinental railroad, dazzling them with images of exotic Western places (like Los Angeles) newly accessible to tourism.

And in Los Angeles, an English photographer named Frederick Hamer Maude delivered popular magic lantern lectures about the American Southwest from the 1890s through the first half of the 20th century. Maude amassed a huge collection of hand-colored lantern



<https://www.kcet.org/shows/lost-la/hand-colored-lantern-slides-of-old-los-angeles-0>



Downtown Los Angeles in 1895 – Broadway between 2nd and 3rd

slides – now part of the Braun Research Library Collection at the Autry Museum of the American West, along with his hand-written lecture notes – from which the following images are drawn.

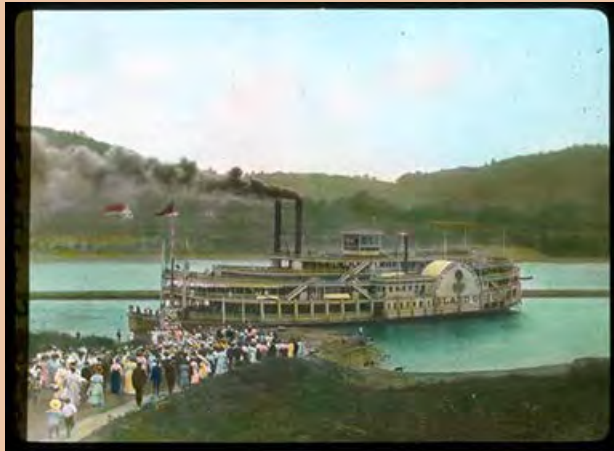


L.A.'s first trolley.



Sunset over Venice Beach





Island Queen landing at Coney Island in early days of Coney Island.

## Large Collection of Cincinnati History in Lantern Slides

<http://digital.cincinnati.org/cdm/search/collection/p16998coll2>



Wrecks of the ice gorge of 1917-18. (Nielen Collection)

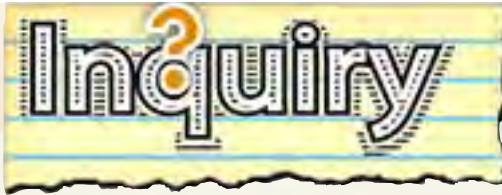


View of Mount Adams from Eden Park. (Nielen Collection)

About this collection  
Lantern slides from the Library's collection, primarily featuring Cincinnati, including downtown scenes, schools, churches and synagogues, as well as the Ohio River, bridges, steamboats, and railroad stations. Many of the photographs were taken by Elmer Foote, the Library's staff photographer from 1907 to 1919. This collection is primarily housed in the Joseph S. Stern, Jr. Cincinnati Room.



Market, Cincinnati, Ohio

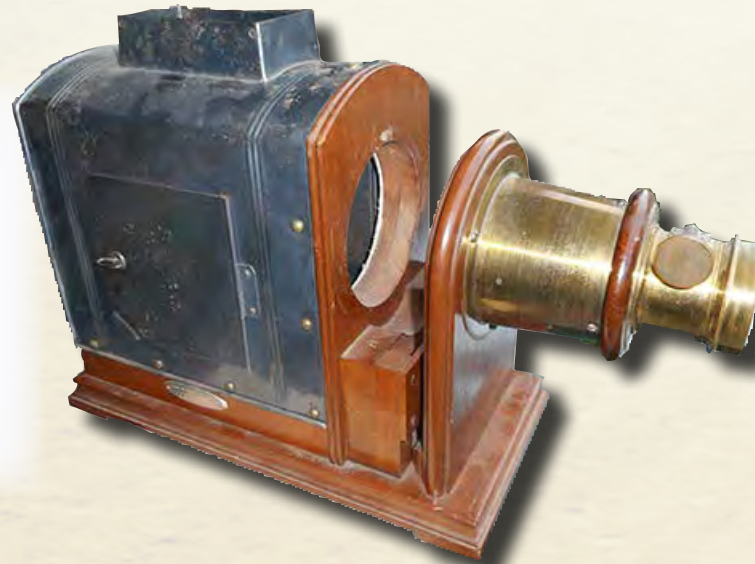


## Lilley Lanterns

**From Eric Stott**

[estott@localnet.com](mailto:estott@localnet.com)

If there is a little space in a future publication, I'd like to get in contact with other collectors who have M. C Lilley lanterns- I'd like information and also I need some parts: this example is in lovely condition except someone took all the lenses out. The condenser unit from one of my others fits it, but the lens elements won't thread into the barrel.



Hi Eric, Ron here -

I know a little about MC Lilley; I have two lanterns and a couple of catalogs. I'm sure Larry will put your question in the e-pub, but I believe Jack Judson has information on MC Lilley and you might want to contact him directly as well.

One lantern I have is similar to the one in your photo, but not exact. The condensing lens assembly just fits into the hole in the wood housing, I have not found evidence of anything to hold it in place. It looks in your photo the objective lenses are all there - or is

something missing? The one I have has two chromed leaf springs that would hold a wood mount slide in place, plus a similar slot in the bottom for a vertical slip/mechanical slide. I did make a wood holder that fits in the bottom slot without any damage to the original lantern so it can be used with a standard 3-1/4 x 4 carrier or 4 x 7 wood mounts. Let me know if you would like photos.

The catalogs I have are interesting, but all are post - your lantern. 1899 and on, no wood parts at all in the lanterns pictured. If you would like copies of

catalogs I have, just let me know. They are interesting but not of use for the lantern in your picture.

Lilley, as you may know, became a large factory/manufacturing enterprise, including high quality swords, for many years after humble beginnings with women sewing regalia for fraternal organizations in their homes. Fascinating story. I am somewhat intrigued as Columbus, OH is my home town and there is no remembrance of the large factory there except in historical archives. One question I wonder, given the large product line MC Lilley offered, did they really manufacture magic lanterns in their Columbus factory or purchase them from a wholesaler and put their name on them?

I am sorry but I have no source for parts except watching eBay for lenses or other things to come up. I have one chimney and need a second, if I can find a tinsmith to make a copy. I am not a good tinsmith, I have found.

I am always on the lookout for wood mount MC Lilley American civil war slides to enhance my civil war show.

Let me know if I can help further

Best, Ron





**From: Nancy Argenziano**

[nancyargenziano@gmail.com](mailto:nancyargenziano@gmail.com)

Hello. I have acquired a Balipticon, and two original cases of J. H Thurston slides. One case is marked "The Zodiac", the other "CHT" 1912. The Balipticon is in its original case and is in great condition. I would love to have information on the slides also. Anything you can help with, would be very much appreciated. Thank you very much,  
Nancy Argenziano



## Acquired a Balipticon

Hello Nancy

The Balopticon was a name adopted by Bausch & Lomb for their stereopticon or magic lantern range, but later it became almost a generic term for magic lantern. Bausch and Lomb were manufacturers of various optical devices and produced high quality lenses for photographic, telescopic, binocular and other optical instruments.

J H Thurston of Boston, Mass. was a slide dealer and agent for T H McAllister, slide manufacturer. Thurston's appear to have been suppliers of slides to educational institutions, though may well have had a more far-reaching clientele. The firm was active around the late 19th Century and into the 20th. It is possible that the Zodiac set may be something to do with astronomy, though examination of the slides should enable the subject matter to be identified.

If you would send us some pictures of the slides (and the lantern, if you so wish) we can add them to our monthly E-Publication and maybe some of our members can give you more detailed information.

Thank you for contacting us.

David Evans  
Secretary-Treasurer  
Magic Lantern Society of US & Canada

## 1,413 Hand-colored, Lantern Slides



<http://beinecke.library.yale.edu/collections/highlights/walter-mcclintock-glass-lantern-slides>

Pittsburgh native Walter McClintock graduated from Yale in 1891. In 1896 he traveled west as a photographer for a federal commission investigating national forests. McClintock became friends with the expedition's Blackfoot Indian scout, William Jackson or Siksikakoan. When the commission completed its field work, Jackson introduced McClintock to the Blackfoot community of northwestern Montana. Over the next twenty years, supported by the Blackfoot elder Mad Wolf, McClintock made several thousand photographs of the Blackfoot, their homelands, their material culture, and their ceremonies.

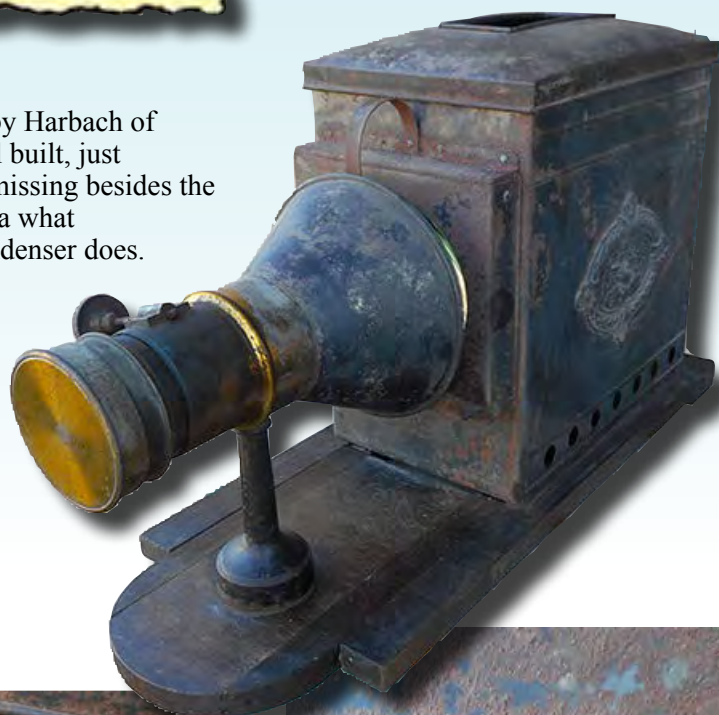


## Harbach Lantern

### From Eric Stott

Just got this- Marked by Harbach of Philadelphia, very well built, just curious if anything is missing besides the chimney. I have no idea what the spring over the condenser does.

Eric Stott



Hello Eric

I'm not sure about what is missing either! It looks like a scientific lantern, where the objective lens can be moved a long way forward so that an experiment of some kind (like a water tank, electroscope etc) can be set up and shown 'live' on the screen. The spring is, I think, supposed to secure the top of a slide carrier. There is a groove into which the bottom of the carrier would fit. The spring would need gentle bending backwards a bit, toward the lamp house, to do its job.

Harbach were agents for, amongst others, Enterprise Optical Co. Maybe it is one of their's?

Let us see if members come up with any suggestions in the next (August) E-Publication.

Regards

David





**From Roger Brondyke**

roger.brondyke@gmail.com

## Magic Lantern Slides that I Acquired

I have a couple of questions that I was hoping you could answer for me. I recently purchased a couple of wooden boxes containing about 125 lantern slides. I had to do some internet research to understand what I actually purchased. I have enjoyed learning about lantern slide on the internet. I do have a couple of questions.

1. What is the best way for me to clean these slides? Just warm water?
2. What kind of value is there in these slides and where would I sell them? Most of the slides appear to be photographic images of gardens, or maybe painted images of landscapes/flowers. But I also have three (3) slides from Edward Van Altna (1873 - 1968) that are dated 1931, as well as 9 bird slides (that appear to be painted). These bird slides are labeled as National Audubon Society. One of these is signed by "Sawyer", and I am assuming that it is Edmond Joseph Sawyer (10/2/1882 - 3/10/48). Some of the other bird slides look like the work of Louis Agassiz Fuertes. Could you provide any assistance with approximate value and maybe how to go about selling these?

Thank you for your assistance,

Roger Brondyke

Mobile Phone: 616-302-2040

Email: roger.brondyke@gmail.com

## Wooden Boxes Containing About 125 Lantern Slides



Any possible leads or assistance that you could provide me to sell these would be appreciated. You had also mentioned an e-publication. I am definitely open to reasonable offers.

Thank you again,

Roger Brondyke

Hello Roger

Hard to say without seeing them. Could you send us some pictures? Esp of the birds and the Van Altna ones. Basically photographic images of gardens etc have very little monetary value unless they can be identified as belonging to a famous person or something. Van Altna specialised in popular song slides, usually in sets of 10 or 12 or more and often with the words of the song on them. It may be that your ones are part of a song slide set. You can clean the outside surfaces of the slides with a dampened cloth but don't attempt to dismantle them or you could easily destroy the images. If you wish we could add your images to our next monthly E-Publication, which goes to all our members, and say they are open to offers, or you could set a price.

Thank you for contacting us.

David Evans  
Secretary-Treasurer  
Magic Lantern  
Society of US &  
Canada





As Seen On

ebay

## Check Out this Spirited Listing on Ebay Complete with History in the Description

<http://www.ebay.ca/itm/Stunning-Magic-Lantern-13-slide-Dissolving-View-set-Rock-of-Ages-Great-Effects-/222200420121?ssPageName=ADME:L:LCA:CA:1123>

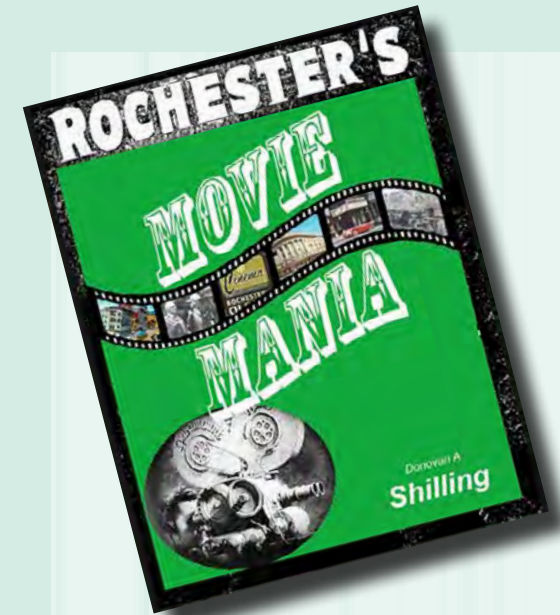
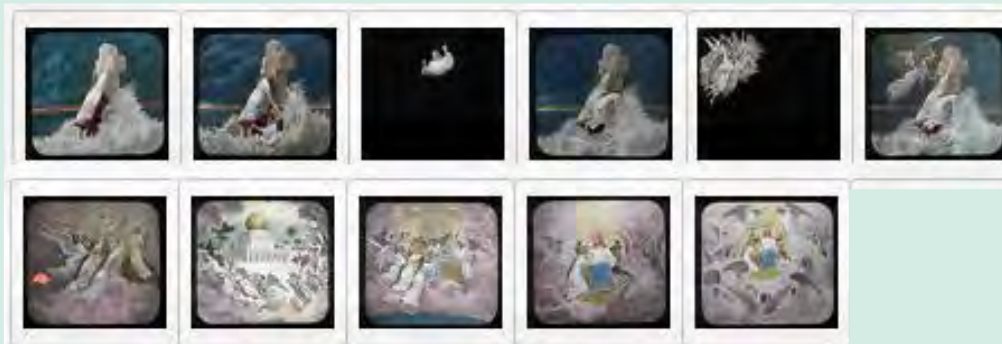
### From David Evans

A fine set of thirteen hand coloured slides of the song which make a splendid dissolving view sequence. The effects of the Saviour's head and the angels can be dissolved on to any of the stone cross images as required. We have a similar set that we use with the Tennessee Ernie Ford version of the song, which works really well to great audience acclaim. The slides are mostly marked Globe Slide & Film Co, Makers - Albion, Mich. Some are marked for the retailer, E Ward-Stilson Co, Anderson, Ind. All are from the same manufacturer and dissolve into each other beautifully. The original complete set was of 17 slides, as the highest number one is labelled 17 - All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name. If you have a biunial or triple lantern, this set is a must for your presentations!

Globe Slide & Film Co was operating from around 1900 onward as makers of lantern slides, later for advertising purposes in early movie theatres. In this capacity they were still in business into the 1940s.

The Ward Stilson Co. had its beginnings in New London, Ohio, in 1888, when C. E. Ward and his brother-in-law, E. R. Stilson, bought a company,

which made lodge rosettes, from four men for less than \$200. The business received an unexpected boost shortly after when the company received an order for 600 bullion collars from the Odd Fellows Lodge. The men accepted the order, undaunted by the fact that no one in their company knew how to make them or run a sewing machine. They moved to Anderson, Indiana, in 1913 and specialised in Lodge items. It is most probable that this slide set was originally used in a lodge.



Also, whilst researching Radio-Mat slides for a web site query, I came across a book called Rochester's Movie Mania by Donovan A Shilling, published in 2013. It has a couple of pages about lantern slides used as announcements in early movie theatres, and also as sing-along slides, and is full of early movie history. Loads of illustrations, descriptions of Rochester's theatres, fun to read! I recommend it to members who like early movie history. Published by Pancoast Publishing at US\$39.95.

Regards

David

*A Big Thank You to the following:*

Nancy Argenziano  
Roger Brondyke  
Ron Easterday  
David Evans  
Eric Stott

*for contributing to this month's issue.*

### Now it's your turn to share!

Do you have a favorite site or a collection of images you would like to share with the rest of the society?  
If your answer is yes! Send site information or your images to Larry and they will be shared in the next E-pub newsletter.

**E-mail Larry**



## Ads From The Moving Picture World 1909

**"Brayton Slides Excell"**  
PERFECTLY DESIGNED—BEAUTIFULLY COLORED  
Treat yourself to the pleasure of using our original snappy ideas all the time.

Advertising Slides will pay your expenses. *Alive*  
Instructions as to how to get the best results furnished FREE. *Artists*  
We make Slides to your order as you wish them made. *Artists*  
Write us today. *Artists*  
We Lay New Ideas Daily. *Original*

This slide effectively proved 10 Cents.  
A large list of advertisements all at hand as this for the selling.  
We are with you in the best way and your advertising Slides are in demand.  
We Supply The Demand.

**BRAYTON MANUFACTURING CO.**  
112 EAST RANDOLPH STREET CHICAGO, ILL.  
Patrons of the Best Slide Service will think well of this.

**SONG SLIDES**  
of quality from original negatives.  
LATEST ISSUES

"Pennyland"  
"When the Little Girl You think of Thinks of You"  
"Dancing Sunshine"  
"I'm Awful Glad I Met You"  
"I Love My Wife, But Oh, You Kid"  
"When You know that Your Girl loves You"

High-class slides made and colored to order from prints and negatives.

**Scott & Van Alena**  
59 PEARL STREET, NEW YORK

**Member Activity**

## Coming Events



## August Meeting Noon August 14 Sunday

Bob and Sue Halls  
Gig Harbor, WA

We will be planning the group's meetings for next year.



If you would like the  
Directions click here  
**LARRY**